

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 14-16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 1-13 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming process comprising the steps of:

applying a first ~~material~~ liquid for ~~improving~~ increasing the wettability of ~~the a~~
surface of an intermediate transfer medium to the intermediate transfer medium,

applying a second ~~material~~ liquid for ~~lowering~~ decreasing the flowability of an ink
to the intermediate transfer medium to which the first ~~material~~ liquid has been applied,

applying the ink to the intermediate transfer medium, to which the first ~~material~~
liquid and ~~the~~ second ~~material~~ liquid have been applied, from an ink-jet recording head to
form an image of the ink on the intermediate transfer medium, and

transferring the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to a
recording medium.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming process ~~for transferring an image of an~~
~~ink formed on an intermediate transfer medium having a non-absorbent surface to a~~
~~recording medium, thereby forming the ink image on the recording medium, which~~
~~comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

applying a first ~~material liquid~~ for ~~enhancing the surface energy~~ increasing the wettability of the a non-absorbent surface of ~~the an~~ intermediate transfer medium to the intermediate transfer medium,

applying a second ~~material liquid~~ for aggregating a coloring material in the ink to the intermediate transfer medium to which the first ~~material liquid~~ has been applied,

applying the ink to the intermediate transfer medium, to which the first ~~material liquid~~ and the second material liquid have been applied, from an ink-jet recording head to form ~~the an~~ ink image on the intermediate transfer medium, and

transferring the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to the recording medium.

3. (Currently Amended) An image forming process comprising the steps of:

applying a first liquid containing a surfactant to an intermediate transfer medium having a surface containing at least one material ~~[[of]]~~ from among a fluororubber and a silicone rubber,

applying a second liquid for aggregating a coloring material in an ink to the intermediate transfer medium to which the first liquid has been applied,

applying the ink to the intermediate transfer medium, to which the first liquid and the second liquid have been applied, from an ink-jet recording head to form an image of the ink on the intermediate transfer medium, and

transferring the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to the recording medium.

4. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein the surface of the intermediate transfer medium ~~is of~~ contains a material containing fluorine or silicone.

5. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein the surface of the intermediate transfer medium has a rubber hardness ranging from 10 to 100°.

6. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein the first ~~material is a liquid containing~~ liquid contains a surfactant.

7. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein a position to which the first ~~material~~ liquid is applied is changed according to an image to be formed.

8. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein the second ~~material is a liquid containing~~ liquid contains a metal ion.

9. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein a position to which the second ~~material~~ liquid is applied is changed according to an image to be formed.

10. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim 8, wherein the second ~~material~~ liquid contains a surfactant.

11. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein at least one of the first ~~material~~ liquid, the second ~~material~~ liquid and the ink contains a crosslinking agent.

12. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ 2, ~~which further comprises~~ comprising the a step of facilitating the removal of a solvent contained in the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium.

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming process according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein at least one of the first ~~material~~ liquid and the second ~~material~~ liquid is applied by using a head of an ink-jet system.

14.-16. (Cancelled)